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# House Override of Farm Bill Veto Is Only the 2nd in Bush's Presidency

By DAVID STOUT and DAVID HERSZHENHORN  
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WASHINGTON — The House voted overwhelmingly on Wednesday to override President Bush's veto of the \$307 billion [farm bill](#), just the second override in his presidency.

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The 316-to-108 House vote was far over the two-thirds needed to overcome a veto, meaning that the president's criticism of the bill as bloated and wasteful won few, if any, converts. But a procedural foul-up basically made that vote meaningless, and the bill must now take a temporary detour before it can

become law.

In the vote to override, Representative Ron Kind of Wisconsin, a Democrat who opposes Mr. Bush more often than not, stood with him on Wednesday. "I think he's right," Mr. Kind said. But Representative Collin C. Peterson, the Minnesota Democrat who heads the Agriculture Committee, said the bill was the best compromise available and over all was "good for America."

In his veto announcement Wednesday afternoon, Mr. Bush said: "For a year and a half, I have consistently asked that the Congress pass a good farm bill that I can sign." "Regrettably, the Congress has failed to do so. At a time of high [food prices](#) and record farm income, this bill lacks program reform and fiscal discipline."

Executed without ceremony, the veto was the 10th of Mr. Bush's presidency, and there was no optimism at the White House that it would stand.

"But I do think that members are going to have to think about how they will explain these votes back in their districts at a time when prices are on the rise," Mr. Bush's spokeswoman, [Dana Perino](#), said at a news briefing.

But another hurdle lies in the path of the farm bill. Lawmakers discovered Wednesday the omission of an entire section of the farm bill, Title 3 covering trade programs and foreign [food aid](#), from the package that was sent to Mr. Bush for his signature.

Although such errors typically are corrected by unanimous agreement of both parties, House Republican leaders, including several opponents of the farm bill, maneuvered to block a quick fix and instead sought to draw attention to what they portrayed as Democratic incompetence.

As a result, the House was expected to approve the corrected farm bill on Thursday, delaying a vote on the [federal budget](#). The measure would then have to be sent to the Senate and on to President Bush for another veto, and then come back to Congress again for override votes.

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